WC 05-126

# SWIDLER BERLING

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# SWIDLER BERLING

THE Washington Harbour 3000 K Street, N.W., Suite 300 Washington, D.C. 20007-5116 PHONE 202.424.7500 FAX 202.424.7647

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March 14, 2005

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#### VIA HAND DELIVERY

Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary Federal Communications Commission The Portals 445 12th Street, S.W.; TW-A325 Washington, D.C. 20554 MAR 1 4 2005

Federal Communications Commission
Office of Secretary

Re: Section 63.71 Application of CoreComm California, Inc.; CoreComm Colorado, Inc.; CoreComm Connecticut, Inc.; CoreComm Massachusetts, Inc.; CoreComm Missouri, Inc.; CoreComm Newco, Inc.; CoreComm North Carolina, Inc.; CoreComm Rhode Island, Inc.; CoreComm Texas, Inc.; CoreComm Vermont, Inc.; and CoreComm West Virginia, Inc. for Authority to Discontinue Certain Services

Dear Ms. Dortch:

On behalf of CoreComm California, Inc.; CoreComm Colorado, Inc.; CoreComm Connecticut, Inc.; CoreComm Massachusetts, Inc.; CoreComm Missouri, Inc.; CoreComm Newco, Inc.; CoreComm North Carolina, Inc.; CoreComm Rhode Island, Inc.; CoreComm Texas, Inc.; CoreComm Vermont, Inc.; and CoreComm West Virginia, Inc. (collectively, "CoreComm"), transmitted herewith are an original and six (6) copies of the above referenced application for authority to discontinue the provision of certain services.

Please date-stamp the enclosed extra copy of this filing and return it in the envelope provided. Should you have any questions with respect to this matter, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted

Éric J. Branfman Grace K. Chiu Brian McDermott

Counsel for CoreComm

Enclosure

cc: Rodney L. McDonald (FCC) (via e-mail)

Jeremy Miller (FCC) (via e-mail)

John Adams (FCC) (via e-mail)

9182077v2

# Before the FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION Washington, D.C.

| In the Matter of )  |                     |   |
|---|---------------------|---|
| Section 63.71 Application of  |                     |   |
| CoreComm California, Inc.; CoreComm )                                     |                     |   |
| Colorado, Inc.; CoreComm Connecticut, Inc.; )                             | 4<br>9              |   |
| CoreComm Massachusetts, Inc., CoreComm )                                  | WC Docket No. 05    | _ |
| Missouri, Inc.; CoreComm Newco, Inc.;                                     |                     |   |
| CoreComm North Carolina, Inc.; CoreComm )                                 |                     |   |
|   | $\mathbf{r} \sim r$ |   |
| · ·   |                     |   |
| CoreComm West Virginia, Inc.  |                     |   |
|   |                     |   |
| For Authority to Discontinue  | 4. <u>(</u>         |   |
| <del>-</del>  | · ·                 |   |
| Rhode Island, Inc.; CoreComm Texas, Inc.; ) CoreComm Vermont, Inc.; and ) |                     |   |

#### SECTION 63.71 APPLICATION

CoreComm California, Inc.; CoreComm Colorado, Inc.; CoreComm Connecticut, Inc.; CoreComm Massachusetts, Inc.; CoreComm Missouri, Inc.; CoreComm Newco, Inc.; CoreComm North Carolina, Inc.; CoreComm Rhode Island, Inc.; CoreComm Texas, Inc.; CoreComm Vermont, Inc.; and CoreComm West Virginia, Inc. (collectively, "CoreComm"), through their undersigned counsel, hereby file this Application to discontinue services pursuant to Section 63.71 of the Commission's rules, 47 C.F.R. § 63.71, and Section 214 of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, in selected areas defined herein. Specifically, CoreComm is seeking to discontinue the provision of certain local and domestic and international long distance customers in a number of locations nationwide on April 18, 2005. In support of this Application, CoreComm submits the following information:

# I. <u>Description of Discontinuance</u>

#### Name and address of carrier

CoreComm California, Inc.; CoreComm Colorado, Inc.; CoreComm Connecticut, Inc.; CoreComm Massachusetts, Inc.; CoreComm Missouri, Inc.; CoreComm Newco, Inc.; CoreComm North Carolina, Inc.; CoreComm Rhode Island, Inc.; CoreComm Texas, Inc.; CoreComm Vermont, Inc.; and CoreComm West Virginia, Inc.

All CoreComm entities can be contacted at: 2100 Renaissance Boulevard King of Prussia, PA 19406

#### Date of planned service discontinuance

The anticipated date for the discontinuance of service in the markets identified below in paragraph 3 is April 18, 2005, or as soon thereafter as the necessary state and federal regulatory authorizations have been obtained.

# 3. Points of geographic areas of service affected

By this Application, CoreComm seeks authority to discontinue the provision of all local, intrastate toll, interstate toll, and international telecommunications services to customers located in the states of Arizona, Arkansas, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Iowa, Kansas, Louisiana, Maine, Massachusetts, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Mexico, North Carolina, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Vermont, Washington and West Virginia ("Discontinuance States").

# 4. Brief description of the type of service affected

CoreComm proposes to discontinue the provision of local, intrastate toll, interstate toll and international telecommunications services.

# 5. Brief description of the dates and methods of notice to all affected customers

Written notice to all affected customers substantially in the form of the sample letters attached as Exhibit A was mailed to customers in the Discontinuance States on February 15,

2005. The customer notice letters were prepared in accordance with the requirements of Section 63.71(a) of the Commission's Rules

6. Non-dominance of the carrier with respect to the service to be discontinued

CoreComm is non-dominant with respect to the services that it proposes to discontinue.

#### 7. Service

In accordance with Section 63.71(a) of the Commission's rules, CoreComm has mailed a copy of this Application to the Governor and the public utility commission of each of the Discontinuance States listed above in paragraph 3, and to the Special Assistant for Telecommunications for the Secretary of Defense.

# 8. Additional questions regarding this application may be addressed to:

Eric J. Branfman
Grace R. Chiu
Brian McDermott
Swidler Berlin LLP
3000 K Street, N.W., Suite 300
Washington, D.C. 20007
(202) 424-7500 (Telephone)
(202) 424-7645 (Facsimile)
EJBranfman@swidlaw.com
TFTanner@swidlaw.com
BMMcDermott@swidlaw.com

# IL Circumstances of Discontinuance

As part of ATX's plan to emerge from Chapter 11 Bankruptcy Court protection and to refocus its business plan in order to achieve long term profitability, CoreComm has determined to discontinue the provision of certain services in a number of locations nationwide. The services to be discontinued are competitive in nature and customers have received sufficient notice in order to allow them to make arrangements for replacement services. The proposed discontinuance is part of ATX's plan to emerge from bankruptcy that should be approved by the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Southern District of New York in the near future, as a

confirmation hearing has been scheduled for April 13, 2005, at which the bankruptcy court will consider approval of ATX's plan.

#### III. Conclusion

CoreComm believes that the proposed discontinuance is reasonable and necessary. CoreComm will take all reasonable steps, to the extent it is able, to assure that the discontinuance of service is not unduly disruptive to the present or future public convenience and necessity. For the foregoing reasons, CoreComm respectfully requests, pursuant to Section 214(a) of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, 47 U.S.C. § 214(a) and Section 63.71 of the Commission's Rules, that the Commission permit it to discontinue the provision of services to certain customers pursuant to Section 63.71.

Respectfully submitted,

By:

Éric J. Bransman

Grace R. Chiu

Brian McDermott

Swidler Berlin LLP

3000 K Street, N.W., Suite 300

Washington, D.C. 20007

(202) 424-7500 (Telephone)

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EJBraniman@swidlaw.com

GRChiv@swidlaw.com

BMMcDermott@swidlaw.com

Dated: March 14, 2005

# EXHIBIT A

Sample Discontinuance Notice Letter



February 15, 2005

Re: IMPORTANT NOTICE, LOSS OF TELEPHONE SERVICE DISCONTINUANCE OF TELEPHONE SERVICE - PLEASE DO NOT DISREGARD THIS NOTICE.

#### Dear Customer:

We regret to inform you that CoreComm¹ can no longer provide your telecommunications services and plans to discontinue service in your State. As a result, we have informed the Federal Communications Commission of this development. Accordingly, CoreComm will discontinue all LOCAL TELEPHONE SERVICES that you receive from CoreComm in all service locations in your safe. Subject to regulatory approval, the anticipated date for the discontinuance of your service is April 18, 2005. This discontinuance notice applies to each line listed on the attachment enclosed.

If you also receive LONG DISTANCE TELELPHONE SERVICES from CoreComm, those services will also be discontinued, subject to regulatory approval, at or about the same time. Your LOCAL TELEPHONE SERVICE and your LONG DISTANCE TELEPONE SERVICE, if you receive such service from CoreComm, will not be automatically transferred to another provider, so you must take a immediate action to avoid interruption to your LOCAL TELEPHONE SERVICE, and, if you receive it from CoreComm, LONG DISTANCE TELEPHONE SERVICE. This is the only notice you will receive about the loss of your telephone service.

Your immediate action is required! In order to obtain alternative LOCAL TELEPHONE SERVICE and LONG DISTANCE TELEPHONE SERVICE, you must select a new service provider(s) immediately. If you do not select a new local telephone service provider by April (6, 2005, you may lose your local telephone service. If you act by this date there should be enough time for your chosen new local telephone service provider to start your new service before your CoreComm service ends. We are making every effort to continue our service to you until April 18. 2005. Accordingly, please do not delay in arranging for a new provider(s). A list of telecommunications providers serving your area can generally be found in the front of your local telephone book. Please remember that you can choose the provider of your local telephone service and may select any company that is offering service in your area.

CoreComm provides service under the names: CoreComm California, Inc.; CoreComm Colorado, Inc.; CoreComm Connecticut, Inc.; CoreComm Massachusetts, Inc.; CoreComm Missouri, Inc.; CoreComm Newco, Inc.; CoreComm North Carolina, Inc.; CoreComm Rhode Island, Inc.; CoreComm Texas, Inc.; CoreComm Vermont, Inc.; and CoreComm West Virginia, Inc.

Please be aware that you are responsible for paying all bills rendered to you by CoreComm during the transition to a new provider(s). You may be subject to suspension or termination of your phone service in accordance with the applicable rules if you fail to pay your telephone bill.

The Federal Communications Commission ("FCC") permits customers to object to discontinuance of their service by a telecommunications provider. As provided in the FCC's rule 47 CFR 63.71:

The FCC will normally authorize this proposed discontinuance of service unless it is shown that customers would be unable to receive service or a reasonable substitute from another carrier or that the public convenience and necessity is otherwise adversely affected. If you wish to object, you should file your comments within 15 days after receipt of this notification. Address them to the Federal Communications Commission, Washington, D.C. 20554, referencing the Section 63.71 Application of CoreComm. Comments should include specific information about the impact of this proposed discontinuance upon you or your company, including any inability to acquire reasonable substitute service.

CoreComm greatly appreciates the opportunity we have had to serve you and we sincerely regret the actions that we are undertaking at this time. Again we urge you to act immediately to obtain service from another provider(s). If we can provide assistance in the transition of service to another provider or you have questions about the discontinuance process, please call our toll free customer service nuraber at 1-877-267-3266.

Sincerely,

Christopher Joslin

Vice President of Customer Operations and Marketing

CoreComm

#### **VERIFICATION**

I, Jeffrey D. Coursen, declare that I am Executive Vice President of ATX Communications, Inc., the ultimate parent company of the CoreComm operating subsidiaries; that I am authorized to make this Verification on behalf of ATX Communications, inc.; that the foregoing filing was prepared under my direction and supervision; and that the statements in the foregoing document are true and correct to the best of my knowledge, information, and belief.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

Executed on March // 2005, at King of Prussia, Pennsylvania

Jeffrey D Coursen

Executive Vice President ATX Communications, Inc.

#### CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that the foregoing Section 63.71 Application of CoreComm California, Inc.; CoreComm Colorado, Inc.; CoreComm Connecticut, Inc.; CoreComm Massachusetts, Inc.; CoreComm Missouri, Inc.; CoreComm Newco, Inc.; CoreComm North Carolina, Inc.; CoreComm Rhode Island, Inc.; CoreComm Texas, Inc.; CoreComm Vermont, Inc.; and CoreComm West Virginia, Inc. and was served this 14<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2005, by mailing true and correct copies thereof, postage prepaid, to the following persons at the addresses appearing on the attached list.

Brian McDermott

#### SERVICE LIST

Governor, Janet Napolitano State Capitol, Executive Tower 1700 West Washington Street Phoenix, AZ 85007

Governor, Mike Huckabee State Capitol Building Little Rock, AR 72201

Governor, Arnold Schwarzenegger State Capitol 1st Floor Sacramento, CA 95814

Governor, Bill Owens 136 State Capitol Building Denver, CO 80203-1792

Governor, Thomas J. Vilsack State Capitol Building Des Moines, IA 50319

Governor, Kathleen Sebelius State Capitol, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Topeka, KS 66612-1590

Governor, Kathleen Babineaux Blanco State Capitol P.O. Box 94004 Baton Rouge, LA 70804-7099 Arizona Corporation Commission Brian C. McNeil, Executive Secretary Utilities Division 1200 W. Washington Street Phoenix, AZ 85007

Arkansas Public Service Commission Diane K. Wilson, Secretary 1000 Center Street Little Rock, AR 72201-4300

Docket Office, Room 2001 California Public Utilities Commission State Building 505 Van Ness Avenue, Suite 100 San Francisco, CA 94102-3298

Colorado Public Utilities Commission Bruce N. Smith, Director 1580 Logan Street Office Level 2 Denver, CO 80203

Iowa Utilities Board
Judi Cooper, Executive Secretary
350 Maple Street
Des Moines, IA 50319

Kansas State Corporation Commission Jeff Wagaman, Executive Director 1500 S.W. Arrowhead Road Topeka, KS 66604

Louisiana Public Service Commission Lawrence C. St. Blanc, Executive Secretary One American Place, Suite 1630 Corner of North & N. 4<sup>th</sup> Streets Baton Rouge, LA 70821

### SERVICE LIST (Cont'd)

Governor, Mitt Romney State House Executive Office, Room 360 Boston, MA 02133

Governor, Tim Pawlenty 130 State Capitol 75 Rev. Dr. MLK Jr., Blvd. St. Paul, MN 55155

Governor, Bob Holden 216 State Capitol P.O. Box 720 Jefferson City, MO 65102

Governor, Mike Johanns State Capitol P.O. Box 94848 Lincoln, NE 68509-4848

Governor, Kenny Guinn Executive Chambers 101 North Carson Street Carson City, NV 89701

Governor, Bill Richardson State Capitol Building 490 Old Santa Fe Trail, Room 400 Santa Fe, NM 87501

Governor, Michael F. Easley 116 W. Jones St., 20301 Mail Service Ctr. Raleigh, NC 27699 Mary Cottrell, Secretary
Massachusetts Department of
Telecommunications and Energy
One South Station
Boston, MA 02110

o **t** : .

Minuesota Department of Commerce Linda Chavez, Telephone Docketing Coord. 85 7<sup>TH</sup> Place E., Suite 500 St. Paul, MN 55101

Missouri Public Service Commission
Date Roberts, Secretary/Chief Regulatory
Law Judge
200 Madison Street
Suite 100
Jefferson City, MO 65101

Nebraska Public Service Commission And Pollock, Executive Director 300 The Atrium 1200 N Street Lincoln, NE 68509

Nevada Public Utilities Commission Crystal Jackson, Secretary 1150 E. William Street Carson City, NV 89701-3109

New Mexico Public Regulation Commission Tom Halpin, Records Manager 224 East Palace Avenue – Marian Hall Santa Fe, NM 87501

Norm Carolina Public Utilities Commission Geneva Thigpen, Chief Clerk Office of the Chief Clerk 43) North Salisbury Street Dobbs Building Raleigh, NC 27603-5918

# SERVICE LIST (Cont'd)

Governor, Don Carcieri State House Providence, RI 02903

Governor, Mark Sanford State House P.O. Box 12267 Columbia, SC 29211

Governor, Phil Bredesen State Capitol First Floor Nashville, TN 37243-0001

Governor, Rich Perry State Capitol P.O. Box 12428 Austin, TX 78711

Governor, Gary Locke Insurance Building P.O. Box 40002 Olympia, WA 98504-0002

Governor, Bob Wise State Capitol Building 1900 Kanawha Boulevard, East Charleston, WV 05305

Governor M. Jodi Rell State Capitol 210 Capitol Ave. Hartford, CT 06106 Rhode Island Public Utilities Commission Luly Vassaro, Clerk 89 Jefferson Boulevard Warwick, RI 02888-1046

South Carolina Public Service Commission Gary & Walsh, Executive Director Saluria Building 101 Executive Center Drive Columbia, SC 29210

Tennessee Regulatory Authority
Sharla Dillon, Dockets & Record Manager
460 James Robertson Parkway
Nashville, TN 37243-0505

Texas Public Utility Commission Cathy Hightower, File Clerk 1701 N. Congress Avenue Austin, TX 78711-3326

Washington Utilities and Transportation Coronission Carole J. Washburn, Executive Secretary 1300 South Evergreen Park Drive, S.W. Olympia, WA 98504

West Virginia Public Service Commission Sandra Squire, Director/Executive Secretary 201 Brooks Street Charleston, WV 25301

Department of Public Utility Control
10 Franklin Square
New Britain, CT 06051

# SERVICE LIST (Cont'd)

Secretary
Maine Public Utilities Commission
242 State Street
18 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333-0018

Office of the Governor #1 State House Station Augusta, ME 04333-0001

Clerk
Vermont Public Service Board
112 State Street (Chittenden Bank Building)
Drawer 20
Montpelier, VT 05620-2701

Governor Jim Douglas 109 State Street, Pavilion Montpelier, VT 05609-0101

Secretary of Defense
Attn: Special Assistant for Telecommunications
1000 Defense Pentagon
Washington, D.C. 20301-1000

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